

# THE PACIFIC COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER

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## THE LIBERAL FOREIGN POLICY.

The remarkable dispatch printed a few days ago about a request said to have been made by Japan for the reorganization of the British army, is regarded by local students of foreign politics as a stratagem to develop the Liberal policy towards the Anglo-Japanese alliance. The news of the Conservative defeat must have caused anxiety at Tokyo, for the alliance was a purely Conservative stroke and one of a sort with which Liberal traditions are at variance. What more natural than that Tokyo should send out a feeler such as would be conveyed in the intimation that Japan, having fulfilled the terms of her military compact with Great Britain, would be pleased to have the latter power begin the army reorganization which the further articles of the compact require. Upon the answer to such a request would depend the tenure of the alliance. By its terms Japan would know whether the new Liberal ministry intended to meet the Conservative obligation or not.

It is a most interesting question, all over the world, what form the Liberal foreign policy will take. At home the Liberals, when in power, have always acted with a firm and steady hand; abroad they have been conciliatory and even temporizing. It was a Gladstone ministry which signed an inglorious peace with the Boers after Majuba Hill. Most of the members of the new administration of Great Britain were pro-Boers, and it may be that from them the conquered Dutchmen will recover some of their lost political ground.

On coming into power the new cabinet found that a quasi-alliance had been made with France which might, in certain events, plunge England into war with Germany. The Liberal party abhors war as an interference with trade; but, on the other hand, the Liberals have always had a soft side for France and industrial Germany herself is an interference which British trade naturally resents. Again, if Germany is about to ally herself with Russia, Liberal sympathy with her can hardly be counted on. It may be that the French entente will survive, but the French chancellery may easily share the apprehensions of which Japan seems to have already given diplomatic evidence.

## A GROWTH OF PUBLIC SPIRIT.

There was a time when the country feared the entail of vast estates through the formation of Rothschild family trusts, but the rich men themselves are unexpectedly reducing the danger either by giving away great sums while they live, as Carnegie does, or by bequeathing the bulk of their estates to public causes as Marshall Field and Charles T. Yerkes did. It is remarkable how much private money is going into education and charity. Mr. Carnegie has given away a dozen huge fortunes for the founding of libraries. Cecil Rhodes gave much in his will to the humanities; the Stanford money is nearly all in the university at Palo Alto and a dozen other great colleges are being enriched from year to year by money left by men and women who had heirs of kin that might have preserved and increased the fortunes they were not to get. After years of rampant individualism it has become the fashion for rich men to consider their duty to society. John D. Rockefeller is increasing his benefactions and no one now believes that his son will get enough from the paternal estate to make him a billionaire in his lifetime. Even Russell Sage, he of the close fist, lets it be known that his will is going to be a surprise to those who have never suspected him of benevolent public spirit.

The trouble expected of China is a general anti-foreign outbreak. This would require the same treatment as the Boxer uprising had, namely, an invasion by allied troops to restore order. This is where the interest of the United States comes in. Since Japan whipped Russia, China has given fuller expression to her latent contempt for white powers and has gained a spirit of nationality which she never had before. In diplomacy, for almost the first time since the treaty ports were forced open, Peking has begun to assert herself with vigor. China now possesses a trained army which is infected with the anti-foreign idea. At any moment, so observers think, there may be an uprising of troops and people alike, to drive the foreigners into the sea.

The Advertiser does not share the feeling of an evening paper that all wills should be treated as public documents and be filed for the use of the press. In cases where public or corporate institutions are left something or where the provisions of the will are eccentric, publicity ought, generally speaking, to follow. But the bequests of a man to his own family, especially where they involve transfers of property which is mixed with the holdings of others, ought, we believe, to be held inviolate from the gossip of the streets. Curiosity to see a private will is of a rather vulgar type, quite akin to curiosity about the other affairs of a neighbor's family.

The Chinese restaurants, while meeting a need—especially among the poorer Hawaiians, who obtain their meals almost entirely from these places—are a dangerous spot. Many a young man or woman can trace the first fatal step in life to the evil influence of these places. Boys have often been here initiated into their first lessons in profanity.—Rath.

This is a reflection on the truants officers, if there are any. A boy who had to wait until he began going into Chinese restaurants before he learned to swear, must never have gone to school. For a thorough grounding in profanity there is nothing to equal the curriculum of a public school recess.

The late Col. William F. Allen was an ideal citizen. Upright in his dealings, generous in his instincts, wise in his councils, the enemy of no man and the helper of many, Colonel Allen set an example of sane goodness which will not be lost upon the community in which he lived so long. No city can have too many such men and none has enough.

It is most satisfying to know that Mr. Bulger approves of Kilauea. As an inspector of boilers, Mr. Bulger should be an expert on volcanoes, and things like that. And, anyway, without Mr. Bulger's approval for her steam machine, Madame Pele might have been in some danger of having her license revoked by the Federal government.

## THE WORLD'S NEWS FROM LAST FILES

It is said that John D. Rockefeller is in France.

Dowie is said to have given his wealth to "Zion."

A British doctor says that a microbe is the cause of paralysis.

Grover Cleveland, it is said, contemplates moving to California.

August Belmont, Jr., has married Miss Alice de Goucoura of New York.

Mayor Schmitz of San Francisco was stopped in Los Angeles for fast autoing.

A French archeologist has discovered an ancient city of the Mayas in Guatemala.

King Alfonso met the Princess Ena, his future wife, and her mother at Biarritz.

The Lackawanna Ry. is to eliminate the famous horseshoe curve in the Alleghenies.

Union Pacific directors are divided as to how profits of \$96,000,000 shall be distributed.

Walter Hobart of San Francisco was thrown from his polo pony and seriously injured.

The German emperor will send a bracelet to Miss Roosevelt for her wedding present.

Over a thousand criminals under indictment, but not tried yet, are at liberty in Chicago.

The remains of General Joe Wheeler were wrapped in the Union and the Confederate colors.

Sonoma county records show that

\$100,000 worth of eggs were laid and sold there last year.

American golfers defeated the Britishers in the international golf match at the City of Mexico.

The State Capital at Albany, N. Y., on which \$20,000,000 has been expended, is said to be crumbling.

Over 1200 divorce decrees were issued in California during the six months ending December 31.

Novelist Dixon predicts a war of the races in America and advocates the banishment of the blacks.

New York hotels are taxed to their capacity to provide accommodations for a great influx of strangers.

The art collection of the late Irving M. Scott of San Francisco is to be sent to New York to be auctioned off.

Admiral Van Reypen's son committed suicide in New York. He was the leader of the younger Yale set there.

Dr. Brooks of Smith Observatory, Geneva, N. Y., discovered, on January 27, a new comet in the northwestern sky.

Col. Filmer, commanding the First Regiment, National Guard of California, has been placed on the retired list.

Cuba is to send a handsome gift to Alice Roosevelt. The Senate passed an appropriation of \$25,000 to make the purchase.

The actual outlay for the war from beginning to end for Japan was \$495,000,000 for the army, and \$90,000,000 for the navy.

Sir Henry Irving's estate is to be divided equally between his two sons and Mrs. David B. Arie, a woman journalist.

Marquis de la Mina, Chief Equerry, goes to London on behalf of the Spanish king to demand King Edward's consent to the marriage of the Span-

ish ruler to Princess Ena of Battenberg.

A report filed by the Master in Chancery with Judge Kohlsaat of Chicago practically puts ticket-scalping business at an end.

The largest single consignment of gold from South Africa, landed at Southampton on January 27, was valued at \$1,835,000.

During the months of July, August and September, last year, 1003 passengers on railway trains in the United States were killed.

Rev. G. C. Ware was convicted by an Omaha jury on charges of conspiracy to defraud the government by means of fraudulent land entries.

Stanley Spencer, the noted English aeronaut, died at Malta. In 1902 he made a flight over London in an airship of his own invention.

King Victor of Italy has commissioned a Milan jeweler to execute a magnificent piece of jewelry to be given Miss Roosevelt as a wedding present.

Dr. Paul Dashiell, prominent in football matters, has been appointed to a professorship of mathematics at the Naval Academy, with the rank of lieutenant.

Capt. Dwight Aultman, who since the evacuation of Cuba by the American forces has been instructor to the Cuban army, has been ordered to San Francisco.

Mrs. C. A. Canfield, wife of the millionaire oil magnate of Los Angeles, was murdered by a former coachman because she refused to give him \$2500 on demand.

The Western Pacific Ry. has secured an entrance to Salt Lake City. The City Council permits the erection of a Union depot for the Western and the Rio Grande roads.

A blow to the exclusiveness of Burlingame, California, has been given, when the humble residents of the town met and arranged to start a real town with a city government.

Rev. Father O'Keefe of Towson, Md., the last surviving brigade chaplain of the Confederate armies, is dead. He was attached to Mahone's brigade of the army of Northern Virginia.

The Dowager Empress of China has sent to the American Legation at Peking a number of wedding presents for Miss Roosevelt. The presents consist of costly jewels, silks and ermine robes.

Six hundred physicians are to sail on a chartered steamship from Cherbourg in April to test the hundred odd methods of overcoming seasickness submitted to the notice of the league.

The skeleton of Enoch Holloway, the "lost white man" to enter the fertile North Fork country of Colorado, was found recently. The man was killed by Indians. The skeleton had lain undiscovered for thirty years.

The Korean ruler is not yet reconciled to the Japanese protectorate and fails to grasp the situation. He refused to grant a farewell audience to the retiring American Minister, Mr. Morgan, who passed through Honolulu recently.

F. F. Bunkers, survivor of the Valencia wreck, scores the steamship company for its lack of many appliances that might have saved lives. He says the plugs for the bottoms of the boats would not fit, and the life preservers were made of tulle reeds instead of cork.

## TODAY'S MEETING OF WOMAN'S BOARD

The February meeting of the Woman's Board will be held in the chapel of Central Union church today at 2:30 p. m.

Reports of Hawaiian and Japanese work will be given and a report from Lima Kokun.

The study in Japanese life considers the topics, "Forces in Conflict," subdivided, "Japan's Spiritual Poverty," "Power of Regenerated Lives" and "Our Unique Opportunity." Chairman of reading circle, Miss Anna Paris.

The ladies of the Board gladly welcome to the pleasure and profit of these meetings strangers as well as friends who are interested in mission work.

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